## **REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance are requested.

The Examiner indicates that claims 4, 8, 13, and 16 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 1 now includes the allowable subject matter from claims 3 and 4. Allowable claim 8 has been rewritten in independent claim format. Claim 10 now includes the allowable subject matter from claims 12 and 13. Allowable claim 16 has been rewritten in independent claim format. The dependency of claim 9 has been corrected.

Accordingly, the application is in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

John R. Lastova Reg. No. 33,149

JRL:maa

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100